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Samut Songkrham

Samut Songkhram





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Bangnoi Floating Market

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Rom Hup Market

Samut Songkhram

Samut Songkhram is a small province not far from Bangkok. It takes a little more than one hour to the province. For those who enjoy cultural tourism and traditional ways of life, this province has much to offer. For example, the people here earn a living from vegetable and fruit farming, and coconut palm sugar simmering. Furthermore, the floating market at Tha Kha still maintains the traditional way of life of a community by a canal.

There is no evidence to indicate the establishment of the city of Samut Songkhram. It is presumed to have been a former district of Ratchaburi called ‘Suan Nok’ (outside garden). Then, during the transition from the Ayutthaya to the Thon Buri periods, it was separated from Ratchaburi and named ‘Mueang Mae Klong.’ Samut Songkhram was historically important during the establishment of Thon Buri as the kingdom’s capital by King Taksin the Great. When the Burmese led an army to Tambon Bang Kung, the king gathered the people to build a fort and prevent the city from the Burmese troops. This was an important act against the Burmese invaders at that time.

Samut Songkhram is 72 Km. from Bangkok, covering an area of 416 sq km. The province is divided into three districts: Amphoe Mueang, Amphoe Amphawa, and Amphoe Bang Khonthi.

Boundary

North	borders Ratchaburi.
South	borders Phetchaburi and the Gulf of Thailand.
West	borders Phetchaburi and Ratchaburi.
East	borders Samut Sakhon.

HOW TO GET THERE

By car Take Highway 35 (Thon Buri–Pak Tho or Rama II Road), past the Na Kluea – Maha Chai Intersection. At around Km. 63, take the elevated way into the town of Samut Songkhram.

By van There are many routes available including the Victory Monument–Mae Klong, Mo Chit–Mae Klong, Bang Na–Maha Chai–Mae Klong, and Lotus Pin Klao–Mae Klong routes.

By bus The Transport Company Limited offers a daily bus service between Bangkok and Samut Songkhram, leaving the Southern Bus Terminal on Borommaratchachonnani Road from 5.50 a.m.–9.00 p.m. For an air-conditioned bus (Damnoen Tour), Tel. 0 2894 6355, or visit www.transport.co.th.

By train From the Wongwian Yai Railway Station, there is a daily train from Wongwian Yai to Maha Chai. Take a boat from the Maha Chai Pier to the Tha Chalom Pier and get on a train from the Ban Laem Railway Station to the town of Samut Songkhram. Or take a bus from the Maha Chai Railway Station straight to the town. For a train schedule, contact the Wongwian Yai Railway Station, Tel. 0 2465 2017, 0 2890 6260, or visit www.railway.co.th.

Distances from Amphoe Mueang to Other Districts

Amphoe Amphawa	6 km.
Amphoe Bang Khonthi	12 km.

ATTRACTIONS

Amphoe Mueang (อำเภอเมือง)

Don Hoi Lot (ดอนหอยหลอด)

This famous tourist attraction of Samut Songkhram is a bar on the mouth of the Mae Klong River. It was formed by the sedimentation of sandy soil called by villagers here as ‘Sai Khi



Don Hoi Lot

Pet. The bar of 3 km. wide and 5 km. long covers two zones: Don Nok is on the mouth of Ao Mae Klong, accessible by boat; and Don Nai is located on the beach of the Chuchi village in Tambon Bang Chakreng and on the beach of the Bang Bo village in Tambon Bang Kaeo, accessible by car. In the area of the bar, there are many shellfish, such as Hoi Lot (razor clam), Hoi Lai (undulated surf clam), Hoi Puk (Ridged Venus clam), Hoi Pak Pet (tongue shell), Hoi Khraeng (cockle), etc. Hoi Lot is mostly found here and it has become a landmark of this place. Hoi Lot is a species of bivalve mollusks, having muddy white meat in a straw-shaped shell and living in mud. Hoi Lot will be caught during low tide. A small stick previously dipped in lime will be put in a hole where the shellfish live. Because of the lime, they will be stimulated to appear

and are caught easily. The lime should not be directly spread on the bar since it will kill all other shellfish in the area. The best time for a visit is around March–May because the low tide will last longer and the bar will emerge to be seen. Tourists can hire a boat from the Aphon Pavilion (near the Krommaluang Chumphon khetudomsak Shrine) to visit Don Hoi Lot. The charter boat fee is 60 Baht (not over 6 persons), or 10 Baht per person. To visit the bay mouth, it costs 200 Baht per boat (not over 5 persons). To admire the beauty of the mangrove forest, it is 350 Baht per boat (not over 7 persons). For more details on the times of the high and low tides, contact the Bang Chakraeng Sub-district Administration Organization at Tel. 0 3472 3749 or the Krommaluang Chumphonkhetudomsak Shrine Foundation at Tel. 0 3472 3736.



Wat Satthatham or Wat Mon

Here, there is a Krommaluang Chumphon-khetudomsak Shrine, and traditional Thai music is performed monthly on the first and third weeks on its front lawn during 3.00 –4.30 p.m.

Furthermore, many restaurants and souvenir shops here offer fresh and dried seafood, Hoi Lot, fish sauce, shrimp paste of Khlong Khon, coconut sugar, palm sap, etc.

To get there :

By car

1. To the Bang Bo village in Tambon Bang Kaeo, take the Thon Buri–Pak Tho Road (Rama II Road), and before Km 62, follow the direction sign on the left to Don Hoi Lot for around 7 km.
2. To the Chuchi village in Tambon Bang Chakreng, take the Thon Buri–Pak Tho Road

(Rama II Road), and at the foot of the Phra Phutthaloetla Naphalai Bridge or around Km 64, follow the direction sign to Don Hoi Lot for around 5 km.

By bus A bus service is available all day from the market in Amphoe Mueang Samut Song khram to Don Hoi Lot in Chuchi village.

By boat A boat service of various sizes is available from the pier on the Mae Klong River to Don Nok. For a group of 60-250 peoples, (contact Khun Phonthip Saengwanit) at the Sun Huat Heng Sawmill in advance at Tel. 0 3471 1466, 0 3471 2558, 0 3471 2451, 08 1378 5858 Fax 0 3471 4240 (Food can be ordered to serve on the boat.), or contact the ferry ticket booth at the pier by the Mae Klong River.

Wat Satthatham or Wat Mon (วัดศรัทธาธรรม หรือวัดมอญ)

is located at Mu 5, Tambon Bang Chakreng. Take the Thon Buri–Pak Tho Road (Rama II Road). At around Km 64, follow the route to Don Hoi Lot for around 1 km. This temple is on the right before Don Hoi Lot. A landmark is the Ubosot (ordination hall) built by Phrakhru Samutwisuthiwong (former abbot) in 1992. The ordination hall is made of golden teak with mother-of-pearl-inlaid walls both inside and outside. The designs are exquisite, depicting the Lord Buddha's history and Ramayana episodes. Housed inside the ordination hall are Buddha images: Luangpho Ban Laem, Luangpu Thuat Yiap Nam Thale Chuet, and Luangpho Phuttha Sothon, which are worshipped by the people of Samut Songkhram and nearby provinces. On the temple grounds, Kalamae-Raman or coconut toffee is sold by the Raman Phatthana Group of Housewives. It is a famous dessert of the temple for its sticky, sweet and creamy taste. The sweet is uniquely wrapped in Kap Mak (leaf sheath of a betel nut tree). Visitors can also see Kalamae making in a giant wok at the temple. For more information, call Tel. 0 3471 1305.

Wat Ban Laem or Wat Phet Samut Worawihan (วัดบ้านแหลม หรือวัดเพชรสมุทวรวิหาร)

is located in town on Phet Samut Road. This is an important temple of the province. Initially, it was called Wat Si Champa. According to the Chronicles of the royal records, the Burmese led an army to attack the city of Phetchaburi in 1764. At that time, a Thai army from the capital came in time to help protect the city. Villagers of Ban Laem in Phetchaburi fled from the Burmese to resettle in Tambon Mae Klong to the north of Wat Si Champa, and called their village 'Ban Laem,' the same name as their for-

mer village in Phetchaburi. Later, the villagers helped restore the temple and renamed it 'Wat Ban Laem.'

Most of the villagers of Ban Laem are fishermen. Once they went fishing in Ao Mae Klong and found two Buddha images in their trawl net. One was a seated image and the other was a standing figure. The seated image was brought to Wat Khao Takhrao in Amphoe Ban Laem, Phetchaburi, while the other was enshrined here in Wat Ban Laem and commonly called 'Luangpho Ban Laem.' The standing Buddha image holding an alms bowl is around 167 cm high. (The original alms bowl was lost in the sea. Somdet Chaofa Krom Phraya Phanuphantwongworadet offered a new one of blue glass instead.) Because of its sacredness, the image has gained respect from the villagers. Wat Ban Laem was developed to be a large temple since faithful people continued to make merit and pay homage to the image. Later, it was promoted as a royal temple of the third class and given a new name as 'Wat Phet Samut Worawihan. Inside the temple compound, there is a Sangha museum with displays of Buddha images, amulets of different periods, ancient artefacts, blue-and-white porcelain, and a pulpit of the Ayutthaya period. Admission is allowed only through contact in advance to the abbot.

Chang-Eng Siamese Twins Memorial and Boat Museum (อนุสรณ์สถานแฝดสยาม อิน-จันและพิพิธภัณฑ์เรือ)

are located in Tambon Lat Yai on Ekkachai Road, around 4 km. from City Hall. The statues were built in memory of Chang-Eng, the Siamese twins who made Thailand famous around the world. They stand in the middle of a broad ground decorated with trees and flowering



Wat Ban Laem or Wat Phet Samut Worawihan

plants. There is a large pond in the foreground. Furthermore, the biography of Chang-Eng, the Siamese twins, is on display in a hall. Chang-Eng, the Siamese twins were born on 11 May 1811, in Samut Songkhram. During 1828-1829, Captain Coffin and Hunter came to Mae Klong to conduct trade and they encountered the Siamese twins. They were allowed to take the Siam twins back with them to America and the United Kingdom for shows in public places where the life stories of Chang-Eng who were joined to each other at the chest were repeated again and again. Both of them lived a normal life to the age of 63. The name of 'Siamese twins' made Thailand famous worldwide. In addition, the hall has an area for a 'Boat Museum.' Here, there is a variety of local boats collected for a study on the "Mae Klong villagers' way of life. The museum is open daily from 8.00 a.m.–4.00 p.m., and on Saturday and

Sunday from 8.00–12.00 a.m. Admission fee is 15 Baht. For more information, Tel. 0 3471 1333.

Amphoe Amphawa (อำเภออัมพวา)

This district has an important record in Thai history during the late Ayutthaya to the early Rattanakosin periods. Initially, it was a small community called 'Khwaeng Bang Chang' which flourished in agriculture and trade. According to evidence, in the reign of King Prasat Thong, Khwaeng Bang Chang had a marketplace called 'Talat Bang Chang.' The market mistress 'Noi,' held a title of Thao Kaeophaluek and she was in a wealthy family of Bang Chang which later became a royal lineage of 'Na Bang Chang.' In 1760, King Ekkathat of Ayutthaya appointed Nai Thongduang (King Rama I) as Luang Yokkrabat to rule Ratchaburi, the fourth level city of Ayutthaya. Luang Yokkrabat later married

Khun Nak, a daughter of the wealthy family in Bang Chang, and moved to live behind Wat Chulamani. When his house was burnt by a fire, he resettled behind Wat Amphawan Chetiyaram. In 1767 when the Ayutthaya Kingdom was destroyed by the Burmese, Luang Yokkrabat decided to evacuate his family into the deep forest. During the time, Than Kao (Somdet Krom-maphra Si Sudarak), an elder sister of Luang Yokkrabat, gave birth to a daughter named 'Bunrot' who later became Somdet Phra Si Suriyenthramat Borommarachini, the queen of King Rama II. During the Thon Buri period, Phraya Wachirapran gathered enough forces to successfully dispel the Burmese out of the kingdom, and established himself as Phrachao Taksin (King Taksin). Luang Yokkrabat moved his family back to town and then his wife, Khun Nak, gave birth to the fourth son named 'Chim' (King Rama II). Luang Yokkrabat returned to work with King Taksin the Great and was given the title of Phra Ratchawarin Chao Krom Phra Tamruat Nok Khwa. He was later promoted as Somdet Chao Phraya Maha Kasatsuek and was crowned as King Rama I, the founder of the Royal House of Chakri and the Rattanakosin Kingdom. His wife, Khun Nak, was appointed as queen named Somdet Phra Ammarinthramat and her mother, Khun San, was given the title of Somdet Phra Rupsirisophak Mahanaknari.

Since Queen Ammarinthramat was a native of Bang Chang, she had immediate relatives who did farming there. As the queen was a member of the royal lineage of Bang Chang, they, therefore, became members of the royal lineage by their relation to the queen. The queen usually went to visit them. Until the reign of King Rama IV, the district of Bang Chang had been referred to as 'Suan Nok' (outside garden) while 'Suan Nai' (inside garden) was the royal

palace in Bangkok. Hence, Amphoe Amphawa has had a place in Thai history for a long time.

Wat Khao Yi San (วัดเขายี่สาร)

is located in Ban Khao Yi San, Tambon Khao Yi San. Presumably, this ancient temple was built in the late Ayutthaya period. Here, there are many interesting spots. The Wihan on the hilltop is a boat-shaped hall where the four Buddha's footprints are enshrined. The Mondop (square building) and wood-carved door panels from the late Ayutthaya period are fine craftsmanship of the master art. The renovated Ubo-sot possesses the art of stucco by craftsmen from Mueang Phet or Phetchaburi. Inside, there are original paintings, and figures from the Chinese chronicles seen on the window panels. The Phra Non Cave has a reclining Buddha image with nine toes. At the lower part lies the sacred shrine of Luangpho Pu Si Racha which is respected by the villagers. A fair to pay homage to the revered image is held in the first lunar month of every year.

Ban Khao Yi San Museum (พิพิธภัณฑ์บ้านเขายี่สาร)

is situated on the temple grounds, using Sala Kan Parian (preaching hall) as its building. It was established in 1996 with full cooperation from the villagers of the Yi San Community who have been aware of their local history. Yi San is an ancient community of the same age as the Ayutthaya Kingdom, with people living in it continuously. The museum presents the stories of the community which are important and worth a study. On the ground floor, there are displays of folk wisdom, life and culture, tools for making herbal medicine, and household utensils. Other local tools and utensils are exhibited on the upper floor. The museum is



Wat Khao Yi San

open only on Saturday and Sunday from 9.00 a.m. – 3.00 p.m., except for Buddhist holy days during Buddhist Lent. Contact should be made at least one week in advance for admission on Monday to Friday. For the reservation of a whole day visit, lunch will be provided. Admission fee is 30 Baht. For a group visit of not more than 20 persons, the admission is 200 Baht with a guide provided. For more information, contact Khun Siri-a-pha Ratcha-tahiran at Tel. 0 2433 1547, 08 1859 3195 the Khao Yi San Sub-district Administration Organization at Tel. 0 3476 3108 Fax 0 2433 1547.

To get there : Take Rama II Road. At Km 72, see the PTT petrol station on the left. Turn left to follow the direction sign to Wat Khao Yi San for around 7 km.

Talat Nam Tha Kha (ตลาดน้ำท่าคา)

is located in Tambon Tha Kha. This floating market still remains the villagers' way of life in nature. The villagers here do farming and grow various plants. They usually paddle a boat to bring their produce to sell to each other. The vegetables and fruits from their orchards include chili, shallot, garlic, coconut sugar, guava, coconut, rose apple, pomelo, etc. The market is held every five days on the



Talat Nam Tha Kha

second, seventh, and twelfth days of the waning or waxing moon in the lunar month from around 8.00–11.00 a.m. A boat service is also available for visitors to paddle around the village and fruit orchards. For more information, contact the Tha Kha Sub-district Administration Organization at Tel. 0 3476 6208 or Uncle Charun at Tel. 0 3476 6123.

To get there : Take Highway 325 (Samut Songkhram–Bang Phae). At Km 32 (after a junction to Wat Ko Kaeo), turn right for another 5 km. Alternatively, take a bus from the market in town in front of the TMB Bank. The Tha Kha–Wat Thep Prasit bus is available from 7.00 a.m.–6.00 p.m. and leaves every 20 minutes.

Wat Chula Mani (วัดจุฬามณี)

is located on Highway 325 (Samut Songkhram–Bang Phae) between Km 34–35 in Tambon Bang Chang. This ancient temple sits on the bank where the Amphawa Canal connects with

the Phi Lok Canal. The temple was built in the Ayutthaya period during the late reign of King Prasatthong. It was presumed that Thao Kaeophaluek (Noi), Mistress of the Bang Chang Market and a forebear of the royal lineage of Bang Chang, built the temple. The back of the temple was initially the residence of Khun Nak (Queen Ammarinthramat of King Rama I) and Khun Bunrot (Queen Si Suriyenthramat of King Rama II).

Wat Bang Kaphom (วัดบางกะพ้อม)

is located between Km.37–38 on Highway 325 (Samut Songkhram–Bang Phae). This ancient temple was built in the late Ayutthaya period. The old Wihan (image hall) is very interesting. On the upper part of the walls, there are unusual mural paintings in the form of stucco reliefs depicting the Lord Buddha's history. On the lower part of the walls, there are niches with Buddha images inside. In the centre of



Wat Bang Kaphom

the hall, a large replica of four superimposing Buddha's footprints in different sizes is enshrined. It was presumed that the footprints were built in the Thon Buri period. Initially, they were covered by silver sheets which were later stolen during a war. The footprint at the deepest level which is made from mother-of-pearl-inlaid wood still retains its beautiful design. There is a small coffee shop with a thatch roof at the entrance to the temple offering aromatic tea and coffee of original tastes.

Talat Nam Yam Yen Amphawa (ตลาดน้ำ ยามเย็นอัมพวา)

is an afternoon floating market by the canal near Wat Amphawan Chetiyaram (parking area is available). On Friday, Saturday and Sunday, during 12.00 a.m.–8.00 p.m., the Amphawa Canal is occupied by vendors who pack their boats with food and drinks, such as fried sea mussel, noodles, coffee, O-liang (iced black coffee),

sweets, etc. There are also things for sale on wheelbarrows on the bank. Visitors can enjoy a cosy atmosphere and music broadcast by the community members, explore the market, have food, and hire a boat to see fireflies at night.

In 2008, the Khlong Amphawa Community was granted an Honourable Mention Award from the UNESCO Asia-Pacific Heritage Awards for Culture Heritage Conservation. This is regarded as a success of public and private cooperation in conserving old buildings of architectural beauty and significance that well reflect local characteristics.

To get there:

By car Take Rama II Road (Highway 35) (Thon Buri–PakTho) to Km.63. Drive through the town of Samut Songkhram to take Highway 325 (Samut Songkhram–Bang Phae). At Km. 36-37, take a left turn toward the King Rama II Memorial Park. The Market is near the King Rama II Memorial Park.

By bus Take the Bangkok–Damnoen Saduak air-conditioned bus to get off at Amphawa Market.

Thai Dessert Museum (พิพิธภัณฑ์ขนมไทย)

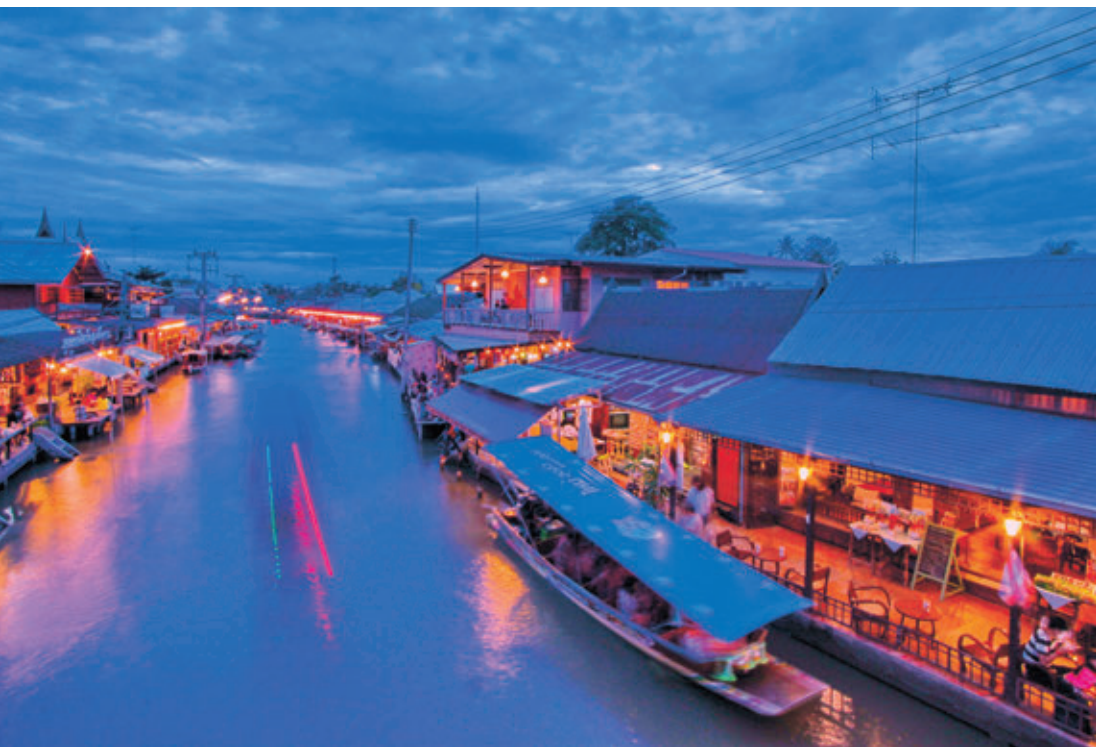
is located downstairs of the multi-purpose building of Tambon Amphawa Municipality Office, displaying replicas of Thai desserts and how to make them. Administration is free. Open during 1.00–7.00 p.m. on Friday and 10.00 a.m.–7.00 p.m. on weekends.

Wat Amphawan Chetiaram (วัดอัมพวันเจติยาราม)

is next to the King Rama II Memorial Park. It is

a temple associated with the royal lineage of Bang Chang. Presumably, it was built during the reign of King Rama I. The back of this temple was once a residence of Luang Yokkrabat (King Rama I) and Khun Nak (Queen Ammarinthrmat of King Rama I). It was believed that the area where the Prang (pagoda) is standing was the birthplace of Khun Nak's son or Khun Chim who later became King Rama II.

Wat Amphawan Chetiaram was renovated several times by Kings Rama III, IV, and V. At present, it is a royal temple of the second class. The Ubosot (ordination hall) and permanent structures within the temple are mostly formed in the early Rattanakosin style of art and



Talat Nam Yam Yen Amphawa



Wat Amphawan Chetiyaram

architecture. The ordination hall is a beautiful building. Furthermore, there is a Monument of King Rama II.

To get there :

By car Take Rama II Road (Highway 35) (Thon Buri–Pak Tho). At Km 63, drive through the town of Samut Songkhram and go on for another 6 km to turn right to Highway 325 (Samut Songkhram–Bang Phae). Take a left turn between Km 36-37 for around 1 km.

By bus Take a bus at the Municipal Market of Amphoe Mueang Samut Songkhram, routing from Mae Klong to Bang Nok Khwaek and Ratchaburi, and get off in front of Wat Amphawan Chetiyaram.

King Rama II Memorial Park (อุทยาน ร.๒)

is the project to honour King Rama II by the King Rama II Memorial Foundation under Royal Patronage, for the royal graciousness of bestowing exquisite art and culture as a national treasure, which qualified King Rama II to be praised as a Person of the World by UNESCO. The construction site of the Memorial Park, which was given by Phra Ratchasamut methi, an abbot of Wat Amphawan Chetiyaram, covers an area of around 11 rais. The area is important since it was a birthplace of King Rama II. Within the King Rama II Memorial Park, there are many interesting spots:

King Rama II Museum is comprised of four Thai-styled buildings separated into sections. The Central Hall houses the statue of King Rama II and displays artefacts from the early



King Rama II Memorial Park

Rattanakosin era, such as Bencharong pentachrome porcelain, pottery, Khon masks, etc. The Male Room presents the living quarters of heroic Thai men, with a Buddha image and a bed which is believed to have belonged to King Rama II. The Female Room displays living quarters of Thai women in the past, with a dresser, a mirror, etc. The Veranda imitates that of a traditional Thai house, decorated with pots of dwarfed trees and decorative plants. The Kitchen and Restroom display a Thai kitchen with kitchenware and crockery, and a restroom of the middle class.

In addition, there is an open theatre and a botanical garden where plants in Thai literature have been collected. A shop here offers local products and young plants. The Park is shady with traditional Thai ambience. It is open daily,

from 8.30 a.m.–5.00 p.m. on Monday to Friday, and 8.30 a.m.–5.30 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Admission fee, adults: 20 Baht; children: 5 Baht. For more information, call Tel. 0 3475 1666, 0 3475 1376 Fax 0 3475 1376.

To get there :

By car Take Rama II Road (Highway 35) (Thon Buri–Pak Tho) to Km 63 and drive through the town of Samut Songkhram. Switch to Highway 325 (Samut Songkhram–Bang Phae). Take a left turn between Km. 36-37 for around 1 km.

By bus Take a bus at the Municipal Market of Amphoe Mueang Samut Songkhram, routing from Mae Klong to Bang Nok Khwaek and Ratchaburi, and get off in front of the Park.

Ban Phaya So (ศิลปะการทำซอู้ บ้านพญาซอ)

'So' or a fiddle is a local musical instrument of the Central Region. Ban Phaya So is a house of the alto fiddle (So U) maker who combines the art of traditional Thai music with carving. A coconut that is used for making a fiddle will be carved with different designs, such as character figures, changeable rose flowers, name initials, names of the twelve astrological years, etc. Nowadays, this art is rarely seen. Visitors can see the art of carving and learn to play the fiddle at Khun Somphon Ketkaeo's house, at 43 Mu 5, Tambon Bang Phrom, Amphoe Bang Khonthi. For more information, call Tel. 0 3476 1949.

To get there : From the town of Samut Songkhram, follow Highway 325 (Samut Songkhram–Bang Phae) and take a left turn toward the King Rama II Memorial Park between Km. 36-37. Ban Phaya So is around 3 km. from the Park.

Wat Phummarin Kudi Thong (วัดภูมิรินทร กุฎีทอง)

is by the Mae Klong River, at the mouth of the Khlong Pracha Chom Chuen on the west bank, in Tambon Suan Luang. There are many interesting items within the temple. Kudi Thong or a golden teak monk's cell has an unusual story that the father of Khun Nak (Queen Ammarinthramat) had her fortune examined by the abbot of Wat Bang Li. The abbot foretold that the daughter would become a queen. The millionaire father, therefore, promised to build a Kudi Thong for the temple if the abbot's words proved true. Wat Bang Li was later named Wat Bang Li Kudi Thong. When the temple soil was eroded and destroyed by water, the Kudi Thong was moved to be restructured at Wat Phummarin. Hence, Wat Phummarin was renamed 'Wat



Wat Phummarin Museum

Phummarin Kudi Thong.' Furthermore, there is a Wat Phummarin Museum and an Educational Park, where valuable artefacts worth a study and conservation have been collected, such as Buddha images, traditional Thai books, blue-and-white porcelain and brassware. A Buddha image here, which is over three hundred years old, is a gilded stucco image in the posture of Subduing Mara, called 'Phra Phuttha Rattana Mongkhon or Luangpho To.' There is also a monument of King Rama II. For more information, contact Phra Palat Thawonpiyatharo at Tel. 0 3475 1492, 0 3475 1085.

Ban Dontri or House of Music (บ้านดนตรี)

is located in the temple compound of Wat Kudi Thong. A school building is used for instructing traditional Thai music. The Samut Songkhram



Wat Bang Khae Yai

Primary School Office has envisioned that the cultural value of folk wisdom should be preserved and inherited to the next generation for their pride in the future. A voluntary group of traditional Thai musicians in the past has been formed to give music lessons for a new generation, so that the spirit of the music city would be passed down. The House of Music has operated since 1 July, 1999. It is open on Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. For more information, call Tel. 0 3475 1500.

Wat Bang Khae Yai (วัดบางแคใหญ่)

is located on the bank of the Mae Klong River, at the mouth of the Bang Khae Canal in Tambon Khwae Om. It was built in 1814. Inside the temple, there are ancient monuments and artefacts. The large Ubosot (ordination hall) is more than 150 years old. At the front, the square

Chedi (pagoda) with twelve indented corners is the art of the Ayutthaya period. The laterite principal Buddha image in the ordination hall is in the posture of Subduing Mara. There are seven Dharma Chedis built in 1872 with a boundary wall. On a separating wall in a monk's cell, a tempera mural painting from the late reign of King Rama II depicts a battle between the Siamese and the Burmese, probably the one that King Rama II sent troops to obstruct the enemy at Ratchaburi in 1821. Admission is subject to permission in advance.

To get there : Take Highway 325 (Samut Song khram–Bang Phae) and turn left to cross the Phra Si Suriyen Bridge. Then, turn right to Highway 3062 for about 2 km, past Wat Phummarin Kudi Thong, and see Wat Bang Khae Yai.

Ban Maeo Thai Boran (บ้านแมวไทยโบราณ)

is a house where species of genuine Siamese



Wat Bang Khae Noi

cats have been conserved. It is located at 2/1 Mu 7, Tambon Khwae Om. The house of traditional Siamese cats was created by lovers of Siamese cats to promote and support the conservation of Siamese cats to be a treasure of the nation. It also gives information on genuine features of Siamese cats, supports research, exchanges knowledge and views between members, and exchanges research experiences and breeding with relevant bodies. Khun Pricha Phukkhabut, the co-founder and caretaker of the traditional Siamese cat house, told that “my mother raised Siamese cats of the Wichian Mat species when I was young. At that time, I did not pay much attention to them. When I grew up, I was to feed them. There were not many cats in my house. My family continued to keep Wichian Mat cats and I had developed a bond with them. Later, some friends who were cat lovers talked about the conservation of the cat since it was clever,

graceful, attractive, and had pleasing habits.” Apart from the species of Wichian Mat, Siamese cats also include Si Sawat, Supphalak, and Koncha. Inside the house, there is a breeding section divided into cages of various types of Siamese cats. This is an interesting place for the study on a genuine species of Siamese cats. For more information, call Tel. 0 3473 3284, 08 4003 4194.

To get there : Take Highway 325 (Samut Songkhrum–Bang Phae). Turn left to cross the Phra Si Suriyen Bridge and then turn right to Highway 3062. Cross the Pracha Chom Chuen Canal, past Wat Phummarin Kudi Thong and Wat Bang Khae Yai, and see the sign of the traditional Siamese cat house.

Wat Bang Khae Noi (วัดบางแค่น้อย)

is located in Tambon Khwae Om by the Mae Klong River. This temple was built by Khunying



Wat Intharam

Chui (Noi) Wongsarot in 1868. Initially, the Ubosot (ordination hall) was built on the bamboo raft tied to a Bodhi tree on the river bank. At present, the temple is well restored. The most interesting thing is the ordination hall's inside walls which are woodcarvings depicting the Lord Buddha's history, birth, enlightenment, and nirvana, as well as stories of the Lord Buddha's Ten Incarnations or Jatakas. The beautiful and explicit design was made by craftsmen from Phetchaburi province where woodcarving is famous. For more information, call Tel. 0 3476 1222.

Wat Intharam (วัดอินทาราม)

is located in Tambon Mueang Mai. This ancient temple was built in 1757 during the Ayutthaya period. It was renovated during the reign of King Rama III. There are many interesting points within the temple compound. Luangpho To, the Buddha image here is over 300 years old. The

Ubosot (ordination hall), which was built from marble, has teak doors and window panels carved with proverbs. At the temple's pier, there is a pond of Taphian carp and visitors can feed them. The temple sets aside an area as a mental rehabilitation centre using herbs and Dharma practice to treat drug addicts. Furthermore, an ancient boat museum project will be implemented here. For more information, call Tel. 0 3476 1888, 0 3473 5515.

To get there : Take Highway 325 (Samut Songkhram–Bang Phae). Turn left to cross the Phra Si Suriyen Bridge and then turn right to Highway 3062. Turn right again to Highway 2002, past Amphawa Hospital, and follow Highway 2007. Alternatively, visitors can take bus No. 8131 from Samut Songkhram to Wat Kaeo Charoen's pier.

Wat Pradu (วัดประดู่)

is located in Tambon Wat Pradu, Amphoe

Amphawa. According to the Chronicles of King Rama V's Private Trips, King Rama V the Great visited Wat Pradu by boat on 21 July, 1904. Having great faith in Luangpu Chaeng, the then abbot, the King invited him into the palace and presented objects of faith to him; such as, a 4-paddler boat with shelter, bed, souvenir ecclesiastical fans and leather covers, cabinets, tiffin food carriers, alms-bowl cover, and wooden lid inlaid with mother-of-pearl into King Rama V the Great's royal initials. The current abbot, Phra Maha Surasak Atisakakho, had the temple and its buildings developed and reconstructed.

He also initiated life-like sculptures made from Thai white clay known as Dinso Phong, depicting ex abbots, the Eng-Chang twins, household spirit from a mental image, Mae Nak, boat tutelary spirit, treasure guardian spirit, Master Uea Sunthonsanan (Suntharaporn), and Grandfather Yai Yangmisuk (temple's committee member who initiated the construction of a new ordination hall and monk's residence).

Places and Objects of Interest in Wat Pradu

1. Ordination hall where Luangpho Yai is enshrined.
2. King Rama V's objects of faith museum.
3. Supreme Patriarch's residence.
4. Tempera paintings on the ceiling from the reign of King Rama II.
5. Sheltered boat presented by King Rama V the Great.
6. Khon mask and master's head demonstration centre.
7. Historical neem tree.
8. Holy water pond.
9. Life-like sculptures made from Thai white clay. Etc. For further details, please contact Wat Pradu at Tel. 0 3473 5237.

Amphoe Bang Khonthi (อำเภอบางคนที) **Church of the Virgin Mary or Atsana Wihan Maephra Bangkoet (อาสนวิหารแม่พระบังเกิด)**

is situated at Mu 7, Tambon Bang Nok Khwaek. This is a sacred place of worship of the Christians living in the area. It was built in 1890 by Father Paolo Salmone, a French missionary with supporting funds from his relatives in France, the overseas mission of Paris and Rome, and philanthropists in Bangkok. It took up to six years to complete the construction. The official opening ceremony was held on 11 February, 1896. It is a building of the French Gothic architectural style and coated with pounded lime. The interior is decorated with coloured stained glass. There are statues, a pulpit, a holy water basin, various kinds of candelabra, and carvings depicting historical stories in the Bible. The church is not far from the river bank. Advance contact should be made to the priest in charge for a guided tour at Tel. 0 3476 1347.

To get there : Follow the Samut Songkhram –Bang Nok Khwaek route (the same way to King Rama II Memorial Park) for around 5 km. The church is around 100 m. from the Somdet Phra Ammarin Bridge Junction.

Wat Charoen Sukharam Worawihan (วัดเจริญสุขารามวรวิหาร)

is located in Tambon Bang Nok Khwaek, around 5 km. from town. Within the temple, there is the Ubosot (ordination hall) built in a unique style with its ceiling curved like a boat's roof. The hall houses Luangpho To, a Buddha image of the Sukhothai period. This laterite image has a lap width of 178 cm. and a height of 208 cm. from the seating base to the halo. In front of the temple, a pond teems with fishes, especially Pla



Wat Bang Kung

Taphian Ngoen and Pla Taphian Thong. Here, visitors can enjoy feeding the fish and having a bowl of delicious noodles.

To get there : Follow the Samut Songkhram –Bang Nok Khwaek route (the same way to King Rama II Memorial Park) for around 5 km, past the Church of the Virgin Mary, cross the Bang Nok Khwaek Bridge, and see the temple's sign on the right. Turn right for around 500 m.

Bang Kung Camp (ค่ายบางกุ้ง)

is located at Mu 4, Tambon Bang Kung. When arriving at the camp site, visitors will firstly see an imitation wall built in memory of the battle. Here is a historic navy camp site. Following the second defeat of the Ayutthaya kingdom in 1767, King Taksin the Great moved the naval force to set up camp in the district of Bang Kung since Mueang Mae Klong (the city of Mae Klong) was in the way used by the Burmese army.

A wall was built to make Wat Bang Kung be in the middle of the camp as a spirit centre for soldiers. King Taksin the Great later commanded the Chinese from Rayong, Chon Buri, Ratchaburi, and Kanchanaburi to form a guard unit for the camp. The camp was, therefore, called the 'Bang Kung Chinese Camp.' The king named the guards 'Thahan Phakdi Asa' or the 'voluntary loyal soldiers.' In 1768, the Burmese king of Angwa led an army via Kanchanaburi to surround the camp. King Taksin the Great and Phra Maha Montri (Bunma) jointly fought and defeated the Burmese. It was the first battle against the Burmese after the Kingdom of Thon Buri had been established by King Taksin the Great. The victory was hailed as moral support to the Thai people while it created a sense of fear among the Burmese army. The camp site was left deserted for almost 200 years. In 1967, the Ministry of Education established a boy

scout camp on the site to celebrate King Taksin the Great, and also built a shrine as a memorial to the king. The ceremony to raise the shrine was held on 20 June 1968. Within the camp compound, there is the Ubosot (ordination hall) commonly called as 'Bot Luangpho Dam,' which was built in the Ayutthaya period. The hall is wholly covered by four species of ficus plants: Pho (Bodhi), Sai, Krai, and Krang. Therefore, it is also called 'Bot Prok Pho' (ordination hall covered by Bodhi trees). The monument of King Taksin the Great is in the nearby area.

Wat Bang Kung (วัดบางกุ้ง)

is located in the same area as the Bang Kung Camp, on the opposite side and separated by a road. Within the temple, there is an old ordination hall which houses a large sculptured Buddha image commonly called by villagers as Luangpho Bot Noi. Mural paintings from the late Ayutthaya period depict Lord Buddha while he was sitting in the niche and preaching, flanked by the disciples in paying respect to him. For more information, call Tel. 0 3476 1631, 08 9201 9684.

To get there: Follow the Samut Songkhram–Bang Nok Khwaek route (the same way to King Rama II Memorial Park). Turn left before the Church of the Virgin Mary to cross the Somdet Phra Ammarin Bridge. Turn left again and go straight for around 6 km.

Interesting Activities

Boat Tour

Cruise the Mae Klong River (ล่องเรือชมทิวทัศน์สองฝั่งแม่กลอง)

A boat for rent is available to see views along the river banks occupied by a line of houses. Among the houses are rarely-seen traditional ones called Ruean Panya or hip-roof houses.

Furthermore, there are riverside temples, such as Wat Amphawan, Wat Bang Khae Yai, Wat Bang Khae Noi, Wat Phummarin Kudi Thong, etc. Visitors can also take a boat ride into canals through coconut groves and lychee orchards amidst a shady ambience. This canal route is less known among visitors, but it is quite interesting.

Ecotourism

Mangrove Forest Plantation (กิจกรรมการปลูกป่าชายเลน)

in Tambon Khlong Khon offers an interesting ecotourism activity at the mouth of the Mae Klong bay, not far from Bangkok. At present, the mangrove forest area has been increased to cover more than 2,000 rai. Most of the trees are Samae and Lamphu. Visitors can ride a long-tailed boat to explore the mangrove forest area, see birds and crab-eating macaque, as well as witness the fishermen's way of life closely. The Khlong Khon Sub-district Administration Organization Office will prepare a long-tailed boat, a sliding board, saplings and planting tools for visitors who wish to take part in mangrove reforestation. For more information, contact the Khlong Khon Sub-district Administration Organization Office (Oboto Khlong Khon) at Tel. 0 3473 1329 or Khlong Khon Ecotourism Community Enterprise, 1/3 Mu 3, Tambon Khlong Khon, Amphoe Mueang, Samut Songkhram, Tel. 08 6177 7942, which was voted among the Most Outstanding Tourism-based Communities at the Thailand Tourism Awards 2007.

To get there : Take Rama II Road (Thon Buri–Pak Tho) At Km 72, see the PTT petrol station, then turn left to the lane with an entrance sign to the Khao Yi San local museum for around 500 m, and turn left again for around 4 km.

Agro-tourism

How to make coconut palm sugar without using a bleaching agent (การทำน้ำตาลมะพร้าวโดยไม่ปราศจากสารฟอกสี)

Dao Dong Agricultural Group of Housewives (Mrs. Prueang Makkhasap) 34 Mu 4, Tambon Khlong Khoen, Amphoe Mueang, Tel. 0 3471 4900; Khun Yupha, Tel. 08 6040 1207.

Ban Bang Phlap Agrotourism Centre,

Mu 4 Tambon Bang Phrom, Amphoe Bang Khonthi, Samut Songkhram, Tel. 08 9829 7100 or 0 3476 1985, which was granted an Award of Excellence in the category of Tourism Development and Promotional Organisations: Central Region, at the 7th Thailand Tourism Awards 2008.

Chili products (ผลิตภัณฑ์น้ำพริกต่างๆ)

Thoet Thai Ruam Chai Agricultural Group of Housewives (Mrs. Thongho Sutsawat)

(กลุ่มแม่บ้านเกษตรกรเทิดไท้ร่วมใจ (นางทองห่อ สุดสวาท))

47 Mu 9, Tambon Mueang Mai, Amphoe Amphawa, Tel. 0 3473 5106.

Food and product centre

Thoet Thai Ruam Chai Agricultural Group of Housewives (กลุ่มแม่บ้านเกษตรกรเทิดไท้ร่วมใจ)

(Mrs. Thongyip Kaeoninlakun) 34/1 Mu 9, Tambon Mueang Mai, Amphoe Amphawa.

Homestay

Ban Tha Kha (บ้านท่าคา)

is located in Tha Kha village, Tambon Tha Kha,





Monk receive food by boat

Amphoe Amphawa, and operated by a group of Tha Kha villagers and was voted among the Most Outstanding Tourism-based Communities at the Thailand Tourism Awards 2007. Visitors will stay with the villagers, witness how to collect coconut sap, simmer coconut sugar, paddle around the orchards, see fireflies at night or visit Tha Kha Floating Market (an overnight stay is recommended before the day scheduled for the local market). For more information, contact the Tha Kha Sub-district Administration Organization at Tel. 0 3476 6208, 0 3476 6123, 0 3476 6094 Khun Malee Wongprasert at Tel. 0 3476 6094 Khun Thawip Chueathai at Tel. 0 3476 6170; and Khun Sap Phongphet at Tel. 0 3476 6190.

Ban Suan Ruean Thai (บ้านสวนเรือนไทย) (Talat Nam Tha Kha) is located at 27 Mu 2, Tambon Tha Kha. Visitors will experience the villagers' way of life by the canal. Activities include offering morning alms to Buddhist monks, visiting orchards, seeing how to simmer coconut sugar, paddling along the canal, seeing fireflies at night, taking traditional massage (advance booking), and riding a boat to Tha Kha Floating Market. Contact Village Headman Urai Silueang at Tel. 08 6789 8130, 0 3476 6322 Bangkok Tel. 0 2948 2054.

Baan Rim Khlong (บ้านริมคลอง) (around Khlong Phi Lok) is located at 43/1 Mu 6, Tambon Ban Prok, Amphoe Mueang, Tel. 0 3475 2775, 08 1659 1189, 08 9170 2904. There are 10 houses; 700-900 Baht. (700 Baht/night including

2 meals and boat trips to see fireflies and visit Tha Kha Floating Market, and 900 Baht/night including 3 meals and boat trips to see fireflies and plant a tree at the Khlong Khon mangrove forest.) Contact can be made via e-mail address: baan-rimkhlong@yahoo.com. Activities include a boat ride along the canal and the Mae Klong River, a visit to the art group of handicrafts made from wood and coconut shell, traditional massage, and a boat trip to see fireflies.

Ban Hua Hat Tourist Centre (ศูนย์ต้อนรับนักท่องเที่ยว บ้านหัวหาด)

was voted among the Most Outstanding Tourism-based Communities at the Thailand Tourism Awards 2007, it is located in Hua Hat village, Tambon Mueang Mai, Amphoe Amphawa. Activities include giving morning alms to Buddhist monks, a visit to see processed agricultural products and Thapthim fish (Red Tilapia) farming, a boat to see fruit orchards, and a visit to Ban Dontri Thai. For more information, contact Khun Thongyip Kaeoninlakun at Tel. 0 3473 5073.

Mu Ban Ruean Thai (Village of Traditional Thai Houses) (หมู่บ้านเรือนไทย)

is situated at Mu 6, Tambon Plai Phongphang, Amphoe Amphawa. Activities include giving morning alms to Buddhist monks, a visit to pay homage to revered Buddha images at temples, a visit to see the villagers' way of life along the canal, a firewood oven for making coconut sugar, and traditional Thai houses. For more information, contact Sub-district Headman Thawat Bunphat at Tel. 08 1403 7907, 0 3476 7520, 0 3476 7333, 08 9988 1754, Fax 0 3476 7521.

Thai Boat House Amphawa Homestay (บ้านเรือไทยอัมพวาโฮมสเตย์)

is located at 18 Mu 6, Tambon Suan Luang, Amphoe Amphawa, Tel. 08 6551 0549, 0 2875 4771, or visit www.thaiboathouse.com (650-1,000 Baht/person, including meals, river cruising and morning alms giving.)

Nayok Oboto Suan Luang Homestay (โฮมสเตย์ นายก อบต. สวนหลวง)

is situated by the Pracha Chom Chuen Canal, Tambon Suan Luang, Amphoe Amphawa, Tel. 08 1793 5560, 0 3475 1023, 0 3473 2623. There are 6 houses; 350 Baht/person, including 2 meals, and 650 Baht/person, including 2 meals and boat trips to see fireflies at night and visit Tha Kha Floating Market in the morning.

Examples of Tour Programmes
One-day Tour to Samut Songkhram

Route I

Morning

6.30 a.m.	Depart Bangkok for Samut Songkhram. Take the Session Phetchakasem - Ratchaburi route and enter Samut Songkhram via the Bang Phae-Samut Songkhram Junction.
7.30 a.m.	Visit Tha Kha Floating Market (held only at weekends and on the second, seventh, and twelfth days of the waning or waxing moon in the lunar month).
9.30 a.m.	Witness the making of coconut sugar on a fire wood stove beside Highway 325, between Km 30-34.

10.00 a.m.	Proceed to Ban Bencharong (Bencharong Pentachrome Porcelain House).	8.00 a.m.	(Thon Buri-Pak Tho Road). Visit the museum of Wat Khao Yi San on Rama II Road, at Km 72.
10.10 a.m.	See the making of Bencharong porcelain.		(For those who are interested in ecotourism activities and a boat trip to see the mangrove forest plantation project, contact the Khlong Khon Sub-district Administration Organization Office (Oboto Khlong Khon) in advance. The trip takes about 1½ hours.
10.40 a.m.	Leave for Wat Amphawan and the King Rama II Memorial Park.		
12.00 a.m.	Lunch.		
Afternoon			
1.00 p.m.	Witness the making of 'So U' (an alto fiddle) at Session Ban Phaya So (Contact should be made in advance).	10.00 a.m.	Visit Don Hoi Lot. Pay homage to the shrine of Krom maluang Chumphonkhet udomsak (a boat trip to Don Hoi Lot is available).
2.00 p.m.	Visit Atsana Wihan Maephra Bangkoet or the Church of the Virgin Mary. (Contact should be made in advance for a visit inside the church).	12.00 a.m.	Lunch. Drop by the shops at Don Hoi Lot to buy souvenirs.
3.00 p.m.	Visit Khai Bang Kung or Bang Kung Camp and Bot Prok Pho (the ordination hall under the cover of Bodhi trees).	Afternoon	
4.00 p.m.	Travel back to Bangkok via Rama II Road (Thon Buri-Pak Tho Road). Drop by the Market of Mae Klong Famous Products at Km 65 and Bang Kaeo Market at Km 58 to buy souvenirs (open on Thursday or Sunday only).	1.00 p.m.	Witness the mother-of-pearl-inlaid golden teak Session ordination hall at Wat Satthatham (Wat Mon) and sample Kalamae-Raman (coconut toffee).
		2.00 p.m.	Arrive at the town of Samut Songkhram. Pay homage to Luangpho Ban Laem at Wat Phetsamut Worawihan.
		3.00 p.m.	Visit the Chang-Eng Memorial and the Boat Museum. Travel back to Bangkok via Ekkachai Road.

Route II Morning

7.00 a.m.	Depart from Bangkok. Take Rama II Road Session
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Events and Festivals

Suntharaporn Homecoming to Amphawa (งานสุนทราภรณ์คืนถิ่นเดิมอัมพวา)

To be held in January at the King Rama II Memorial Park, Amphoe Amphawa.

Fair in Honour of King Rama II (งานเฉลิมพระเกียรติพระบาทสมเด็จพระพุทธเลิศหล้านภาลัย)

To be held in February at the King Rama II Memorial Park in Amphoe Amphawa. There are performances, a demonstration of traditional Thai desserts, folk plays, outdoor classical Thai masked dance, handicrafts, and local products for sale.

Lychee Fair (งานวันลิ้นจี่)

To be held from around the end of March to the early of April in Amphoe Amphawa (subject to the produce of each year).

Luangpho Ban Laem Fair (งานนมัสการและสงฆ์หลวงพ่อบ้านแหลม)

To be held between 13-19 April every year at Wat Phetsamut Worawihan in Amphoe Mueang Samut Songkhram.

Amphawa Food Fair and Afternoon Floating Market (งานมหกรรมอาหารริมเขื่อนอัมพวาและตลาดน้ำยามเย็น)

To be held in August in front of the Amphawa District Office.

Khao Yai Pomelo Fair (งานส้มโอพันธุ์ขาวใหญ่)

To be held at the end of August every year.

Khanom Khrok–Sugar Alms-giving Ceremony (งานประเพณีทำบุญตักบาตรขนมครก-น้ำตาลทราย)

is organised annually on the 8th day of the waxing moon of the 10th lunar month at Wat Kaen Chan Charoen, Amphoe Bang Khonthi.

Mae Klong Banana-leaf Sheath Floating Festival (งานประเพณีลอยกระทงกาบกล้วยเมืองแม่กลอง)

takes place during the Loi Krathong Festival at the King Rama II Memorial Park and Wat Phummarin Kudi Thong, Amphoe Amphawa.

Mackerel Eating and Mae Klong Famous Products Festival (เทศกาลกินปลาและของดีเมืองแม่กลอง)

To be held in front of City Hall in December.

Orchid Blossoms Fair (งานวันกล้วยไม้บานในอุทยาน ร.๒)

takes place annually in December at the King Rama II Memorial Park, Amphoe Amphawa.

Travel Tips

- Study the information on travel and tourist attractions.
- Study the seasons of flowers, birds, or appropriate travelling time.
- Help maintain tourism resources of both natural and cultural attractions.
- Do not act against the local way of life and traditions.
- Be careful and have regard for safety while travelling.
- Follow the authorities' advice strictly.

FACILITIES IN Samut Songkhram Accommodations

(Prices are subject to change; please check with your hotel before checking in.)

Amphoe Mueang Samut Songkhram Alongkorn 1 (อลงกรณ์ ๑) 541/15 Kasem Sukhum Road (near Khum Supermarket), Tambon Mae Klong, Tel. 0 3471 1017, 0 3471 1709, 37 rooms, 150–250 Baht

Alongkorn 2 (อลงกรณ์ ๒) 540 Kasem Sukhum Road, Tambon Mae Klong, Tel. 0 3471 1709, 38 rooms, 150–250 Baht

Ban Chom Duean (บ้านชมเดือน) 39/4 Mu 9, Km. 38 Samut Songkhram–Bang Phae Road (Highway No. 325), Tambon Ban Prok, Tel. 0 3475 2200–1, 22 rooms, 700–3,000 Baht

Baan Hinghoy (บ้านหึ่งห้อย) 57/2, Km. 69 Rama II Road, Tambon Bang Khan Taek, Tel. 08 9532 5024, 08 1178 5196, 0 3477 1385 www.maeklongtoday.com/home/baanhinghoy.htm, 6 rooms, 800 Baht

Baan Khuntawee (บ้านขุนทวี) 1285 Pathum-malai Road, Tambon Mae Klong, Tel. 0 3471 2021, 08 1337 3020, 08 1780 7822 www.baankhunta-wee.com, 14 rooms, Bt 2,000–2,500.

Baan Klong Clone Resort (บ้านคลองโค่น รีสอร์ท) 59/7 Mu 3, Tambon Khlong Khon, Tel. 08 1809 9649, 08 9764 3001, Fax 0 2422 3298, www.baanklongclone.com, 17 bungalows, 1,200–3,000 Baht

Ban Maenum (บ้านแม่่น้ำ) near Wat Maenam, 57/2 Mu 6, Tambon Bang Khan Taek, Tel. 08 9450 7393, 0 3476 7566–7, www.banmaenum.com, 14 bungalows, 1,400–2,400 Baht

Baan Maichailane (บ้านไม้ชายเลน) 137/1 Mu 5, Tambon Khlong Khone, Tel. 08 1943 1322, 08 9919 5443, 08 9615 2150 www.baanmaichailane.com, 8 houses, 800–4,500 Baht

Ban Phak Chao Le (บ้านพักชาวเล-อเมซอนเมืองไทย) 50/6 Mu 6, Tambon Ban Prok, Tel. 0 3475 2681, 08 1792 9346, 08 1012 8926, 4 bungalows, 600–800 Baht

Ban Rim Khlong (บ้านริมคลอง) 43/1 Mu 6, Tambon Ban Prok, Tel. 0 3475 2775, 08 9170 2904, 10 bungalows, 400–800 Baht

Baan Sang Chun (บ้านแสงจันทร์) 82/3 Mu 8, Tambon Ban Prok, Tel. 08 1412 2777, 08 1857 4593, 0 3472 5310 www.baansangchun.com, 7 houses, 800–1,000 Baht

Baan Suan Puttaraksa (บ้านสวนพุทธรักษา) 49/5 Mu 3, Soi Wat Nang Phim, Tambon Bang Khan Taek, Tel. 0 3475 1038, 08 5190 9544, 08 7916 1352, Fax 0 3475 1038, www.puttaraksa.com, 4 bungalows, 750–2,800 Baht

Ban Suan Resort (บ้านสวนรีสอร์ท) 81/3–7 Mu 2, Soi Chonlaprathan (opposite Samut Songkhram Technical College), 1.8 km. off Ekkachai Road (on the way to the Eng–Chang Memorial), Tambon Lat Yai, Tel. 0 3471 7761, 5 bungalows, 700–1,200 Baht

Ban Suan Rim Nam (บ้านสวนริมน้ำ) 81/3–7 Mu 2, Tambon Lat Yai, Tel. 0 3471 7761, 5 bungalows, 700 – 1,200 Baht

Baan Tai Had Resort and Water Sport (บ้านท้ายหาด รีสอร์ท แอนด์ วอเตอร์ สปอร์ต) 1 Mu 2, Tambon Thai Hat, Tel. 0 3476 7220 – 4, Fax. 0 3476 7221, www.baantaihad.com, 51 rooms, Baht 1,200–2,800 (Activities: biking, kayaking, swimming, and firefly watching by boat- Baht 900/hour 8 persons).

Baan Talay See Cream Resort (บ้านทะเลสีครีม รีสอร์ท) 3/20 Mu 4, Tambon Bang Chakreng, Tel. 0 3471 4770 www.talayseecream.com, 32 rooms, 800–6,500 Baht

Baan View Mae Num (บ้านวิวแม่น้ำ) 5/1 Mu 6, Soi Wat Chong Lom, Tambon Ban Prok, Tel. 08 1880 0083, 08 4019 5225 http://baanviewmaenum.blogspot.com, 7 rooms, 1,200 –3,000 Baht

First Inn (เฟิร์สอินน์) 5, Km. 71 Thon Buri–Pak Tho Road, Tambon Bang Khan Taek, Tel. 0 3473 2921 –2, 50 rooms, 210–550 Baht

Home Krateng Chao Le (โฮมกระเตงชาวเล) 124/2 Mu 7, Tambon Khlong Khone, Tel. 08 1941 9152, 08 7828 5420, 0 3473 1221 www.home-krateng.com, 3 houses, 1,000 Baht (inclusive of 2 meals, boat trip, visiting the mangrove forest and catching cockles by using a sliding board along the muddy sand at low tide.)

Khum Saeng Thong (คุ้มแสงทอง) 37/2 Mu 6, Soi Wat Langka, Samut Songkhram–Bang Phae Road, Tambon Khlong Khoen, Tel. 0 3475 2087, 08 1917 4362, 08 5198 0052 www.kumsaengthong.com, 10 rooms, 500–700 Baht

The Lazy River House (เดอะ เลซี่ ริเวอร์ เฮาส์) 3 km. before reaching the Amphawa Floating Market and 1.5 km. off the main road, Mu 9, Tambon Ban Prok, Tel. 08 6886 8283, 08 1837 5253 or www.lazyriverhouse.com, 1 house (16 persons), 1,800–11,100 Baht

Mae Klong Hotel (แม่กลองโฮเต็ล) opposite Wat Phetchasamut next to Thawichit Department Store, 526/10–13 Si Champa Road, Tambon Mae Klong, Tel. 0 3471 1150, 20 rooms, 600–800 Baht

Mae Klong River Resort (แม่กลองริเวอร์รีสอร์ท) 6/7 Mu 2 Tambon Tai Had, Tel. 08 1736 8669, 08 9775 5258 Fax 03476 7499 www.maeklongriverresort.com, 7 houses, 1,500–6,000 Baht

Nara Court (นารา คอร์ท) 81 Mu 6, Km. 56 Rama II Road, Tambon Bang Kaeo, Tel. 0 3471 6718–9, 0 3471 6762, 48 rooms, 500–1,000 Baht

Rainbow Inn (เรนโบว์อินน์) 50/3 Thon Buri–Pak Tho Road, Tambon Mae Klong, Tel. 0 3471 1286, 40 rooms, 200–340 Baht

Ruean Chay Lam (เรือนชายแหลม บ้านพักและโฮมสเตย์) 25 Mu 3, Tambon Thai Hat, Tel. 08 9814 2878, www.chaylam.com, 1 house, 700–1,200 Baht

Ruean Mae Lumpoo (เรือนแม่ลำพู่) 15 Mu 3, Tambon Thai Hat, Tel. 0 3476 7010, 08 1657 7427, Fax 0 3476 7010, www.maelumpoo.com, 10 bungalows, 1,000–1,300 Baht

Saensuk Homestay and Resort (แสนสุข โฮมสเตย์ แอนด์ รีสอร์ท) 87/1 Mu 7, Tambon Khlong Khoen, 9 bungalows, 800 Baht

Suksaweat Home Stay and Resort (บ้านสุขเสวต โฮมสเตย์ แอนด์ รีสอร์ท) 87/1 Mu 7, Tambon Khlong Khoen, Tel. 0 3471 7139, 08 9137 9481,

www.maeklongtoday.com/home/suksawrade/index.htm, 9 bungalows, 800 Baht

Thai Sawat (ไทยสวัสดิ์) 524–526 Phetchasamut Road, Tambon Mae Klong, Tel. 0 3471 1205, 0 3471 1615, 12 rooms, 140 Bath (electric fan and shared bathroom).

Young Coconut Resort (มะพร้าวอ่อนรีสอร์ท) 87/1 Mu 7, Tambon Khlong Khoen, Tel. 08 8153 6624, www.youngcoconutresort.com, 10 houses, 300–1,500 Baht

Amphoe Amphawa

@ Amphawa Home of Love (บ้านรัก อัมพวา) 355 Soi Rong Che Amphawa (Opposite to Wat Wat Amphawan Chetiaram), Khlong Amphawa Road, Tambon Amphawa, Tel. 08 9128 3838, 08 4098 3083, 9 rooms, 1,200–2,400 Baht

Baan Amphawa Resort and Spa (บ้านอัมพวารีสอร์ท แอนด์ สปา) 22 Bang Kaphom – Kaeo Fa Road, Tel. 0 3475 2222, Fax 0 3475 2229, www.baanamphawa.com, 33 rooms, 3,276–9,126 Baht

Baan Budsabong (บ้านบุษบง) 40 Mu 9, Tambon Mueang Mai, Tel. 08 6050 7701, 0 3473 5134, www.maeklongcenter.com/baanbudsabong.htm, 3 bungalows (20 persons), 380/ person Baht

Baan Dalha (บ้านดาหลา) 1 Mu 11, Tambon Suan Luang, Tel. 0 3475 1023, 08 1793 5560, 08 5101 1834, www.baandalha.com, 10 bungalows, 400–500/person Baht

Ban Fon Homestay (บ้านฝนโฮมสเตย์) 27 Soi Mangkon (Near Rong Che Amphawa), Pracha U-thit Road, Tambon Amphawa, Tel. 08 6889 7294, www.fonhomestay.com, 2 rooms, 350/person Baht

Baan Kamathap (เรือนรอยน้ำ บ้านกามเทพ) 22 Mu 10, Tambon Suan Luang, Tel. 0 3473 3159, 08 5064 1635, 08 4669 4733, www.bankammathep.com, 1 house, 400/person Baht (inclusive of breakfast)

Baan Khunyay Sainam (บ้านคุณยายสายน้ำ)

11 Mu 5, Tambon Khwae Om, Tel. 08 3698 3797, 08 3983 5758, 1 house (20 persons), 1,500 Baht

Ban Kilakarn (บ้านกิลกาล)

61 Mu 9 Tambon Tha Kha, Tel. 08 6312 0855 www.onceatampwa.com, 8 rooms, 1,800-2,600 Baht

Baan Klong Amphawa (บ้านคลองอัมพวา)

Tambon Bang Chang, Tel. 08 9120 0757, <http://baanklong.spaces.live.com>, 1 house, 1,200–5,000/10 Baht persons.

Ban Ko Phai (บ้านกอไผ่)

19 Mu 2, Tambon Suan Luang, Tel. 08 1341 1560, 08 1644 0057, 11 bungalows, 1,200/night/2 persons Baht (inclusive of breakfast, firefly watching, visiting the floating market and temples.)

Ban Kung Jumpee Resort (บ้านकु้งจำปี รีสอร์ท)

59/2 Mu 14, Tambon Suan Luang, Tel. 0 3475 2035, 08 1458 1779, 08 1409 8520, 08 4634 9142, www.bankungjumpee.com, 13 rooms, 1,200–4,500 Baht

Baan Mai Chay Klong (บ้านไม้ขายคลอง)

20/1 Mu 5, Tambon Suan Luang, Tel. 08 1856 3990, 08 6571 8488, 08 1923 1913, www.baanmaichayklong.com, 6 bungalows, Bt 1,200 – 4,500. (A seminar room for 50 persons is available.)

Bannarak Homestay (บ้านบรรณารักษ์โฮมสเตย์)

38 Mu 2, Tambon Bang Khae, Tel. 0 3475 1888, 08 1705 0661, 08 9786 2942, 4 rooms (16 persons), 600/person Baht inclusive of 2 meals (house on the canal, firefly watching by row boat).

Baan Phensuras (บ้านสวนริมน้ำเพ็ญสุรัตน์)

40/3 Mu 9 (south of Wat Rat Burana), Tambon Mueang Mai, Tel. 0 3475 7039, 08 1610 6513, www.maeklongcenter.com/baanphensuras.htm, 4 houses, 800–2,500 Baht (Baht 800–900/ persons inclusive of breakfast, Bt 250 for an extra person.)

Baan Rak Num – Rim Khlong (บ้านรักษันน้ำ

-ริมคลอง) 41/1 Mu 1, Tambon Bang Khae, Tel.

08 5191 8700, 08 1857 2012, www.maeklong-center.com/baanraknum.htm, 4 rooms, 800–1,300 Baht

Ban Ruea Rim Khlong (บ้านเรื่อริมคลอง)

11/2, Km. 8 Mae Klong–Pak Tho Road (old route), Tambon Plai Phongphang, Tel. 08 1823 5544, Fax 0 3476 7298, 2 boats (large 'iamchun' boat –8 persons), 1,500/2 persons Baht inclusive of breakfast (Bt 500 for every extra person).

Ban Ruean Phen (บ้านเรือนเพ็ญ)

13 Mu 5, Tambon Suan Luang, Tel. 0 3475 1468, 08 1487 9964, 08 1801 7769, 08 6305 6685, www.thairivertour.com, 8 rooms, 990–2,500 Baht activities: firefly watching at night, visiting lychee and pomelo orchards, and orchid farm.

Baan Suan Ampawa (บ้านสวนอัมพวา)

15 Mu 12, Tambon Suan Luang, Tel. 0 3475 1604, 08 6770 9874, 08 6341 7537, www.maeklongtoday.com/baansuanampawa.html, 7 rooms, 1,200 Baht (inclusive of breakfast).

Baan Subkasam (บ้านทรัพย์เกษม)

12/1 Mu 2 (near Somdet Phra Si Suriyen Bridge), Tambon Suan Luang, Tel. 0 3475 2305, 08 9238 9985, www.maeklongtoday.com/baansubkasam.htm, 4 bungalows, 1,200–2,000 Baht (Baht 300/ person inclusive of breakfast).

Baan Suan Bang Chang (บ้านสวนบางช้าง)

12 Mu 3, Tambon Suan Luang, Tel. 08 9012 1409, www.maeklongcenter.com/baansuan-bangchang.htm, 1 house (16 persons), 2,000 Baht

Ban Suan Khun Ya (บ้านสวนคุณย่า)

11/1 Mu 5 Tambon Bangkhae, Tel. 08 1616 0942, 6 rooms, 800–1,500 Baht

Ban Suan Pasertporn (บ้านสวนประเสริฐพร)

61/3-4 (on the canal opposite Wat Bang Khae Klang), Tambon Bang Nang Li, Tel. 08 1403 0357, 08 9494 8898, www.pasertporn.com, 8 bungalows, 1,000–1,500 Baht

Ban Suan Tan Homestay and Resort (บ้านสวนตาล โฮมสเตย์ แอนด์ รีสอร์ท) 9/2 Mu 2, Tambon Tha Kha, Tel. 0 3476 6324, 08 9885 9466, 33 bungalows, 600-800/person Baht

Baan Suan Sawasdee (บ้านสวนสวัสดิ์โฮมสเตย์) 224 Bang Phae-Samut Songkhram Road, Tambon Amphawa, Tel. 0 3475 1039, 08 6999 3256, www.baansuansawasdee.com, E-mail: nun44kai@hotmail.com, 1 rooms, 250/person Baht

Ban Thinothai Homestay (บ้านธิน้อยโฮมสเตย์) 347 (on Khlong Amphawa near the afternoon floating market), Tambon Amphawa, Tel. 08 1949 1377, 2 houses for 25 persons, 200/person Baht (activities: firefly watching and alms-giving in the morning).

Baan Torsang Amphawa (บ้านทองแสง อัมพวา) 23 Mu 8, Tambon Suan Luang, Tel. 0 3475 1390, 08 6610 2336, www.baantorsang.com, 5 rooms and 6 bungalows, 1,000-1,500 Baht (inclusive of breakfast).

Ban Tuang Ngoen (บ้านตวงเงิน) Bang Kaphom Community 2 (opposite Wat Kaeo Fa), 194/2 Tambon Amphawa, Tel. 08 7151 4008, 08 0428 3642, 08 4017 9694, www.maeklongcenter.com/baantung.htm, 3 bungalows, 900-1,500 Baht (inclusive of breakfast).

Dao Thong Homestay (ดาวทอง โฮมสเตย์) 20/1 Mu 3, Tambon Plai Phongphang, Tel. 08 1758 5274, 08 4981 1195, www.maeklongcenter.com/daothong.htm, 2 houses, 1,500-2,000 Baht

Khung Rap Lom Homestay (คุ้มรำบลม โฮมสเตย์) Tambon Suan Luang, Tel. 08 6527 9048, 08 1943 5751, 08 6527 9048, www.maeklongtoday.com/home/khungramlum/index.htm, 3 rooms, 800-2,000 Baht

Kung Maenum Homestay (บ้านกุ่มแม่น้ำ โฮมสเตย์) 42 Bang Kaphom Road, Tambon Amphawa, Tel. 0 3472 5088, 08 1745 3318, www.bankung-maenum.com, 5 rooms, 1,000-1,200 Baht

Namkeangruen Homestay (บ้านน้ำเคียงเรือน) 153-155-157 (on Khlong Amphawa next to the Amphawa Floating Market), Tel. 08 6626 5569, 08 6507 8598, www.freewebs.com/namkeangruen, www.geocities.com/namkeangruen, E-mail: 555hihi@gmail.com, 6 rooms, 250-900 Baht (secure parking area available).

Ploen Amphawa Resort (เพลินอัมพวา รีสอร์ท) 279 Khlong Amphawa Road, Tambon Amphawa, Tel. 08 1458 9411 www.ploenamphawa.com, 4 rooms, 1,200-2,400 Baht

Relax Smile (รีแลกซ์ สไมล์ รีสอร์ท) (Opposite to the Bang Khae Subdistrict Administration Organization) 58 Mu 5, Pholmai Road, (Wat Pradu-Ratchaburi Road), Tambon Bang Khae, Tel. 0 3470 1279, 08 6369 1001, 08 9614 9920, 08 6307 7519 Fax 0 3470 1279 www.relaxsmile.com, 17 houses, 1,000-4,000 Baht

Roen Sabay (เรือนสบาย) 249 Tambon Amphawa, Tel. 08 6344 7418, 0 3472 5871, 11 rooms, 600-2,000 Baht (inclusive of breakfast and cycling tour).

Ruean Mai Chai Khlong (เรือนไม้ชายคลอง) 35 Mu 6, Tambon Suan Luang, Tel. 0 3475 1034, 08 5425 8648, 20 rooms, 700-6,000 Baht (inclusive of breakfast)

Srivara Garden Home (บ้านสวนศรีวรา) 10 Mu 5, Tambon Wat Pradu, Tel. 0 3476 5018, 08 7111 9500, 08 1805 0355, Fax 0 3476 5018, www.maeklongtoday.com/baansuansrivara.htm, 6 bungalows, 1,000-3,000 Baht

Thanicha Resort (ธนิชาม รีสอร์ท) 263-267 Tambon Amphawa, Tel. 0 3472 5511, 0 3475 1258, 08 9104 5444, 08 9106 1456, www.thanicha.com, 25 rooms, 1,290-1,690 Baht (inclusive of breakfast).

Amphoe Bang Khonthi

Aumporn Riverside Resort (อัมพร ริเวอร์ไซด์ รีสอร์ท) 14/2 Mu 6, Tambon Bang Khonthi, Tel.

08 9103 1033, www.aumpornriverside.com, 11 rooms, 1,200 Baht (inclusive of breakfast).

Baan Budsaba Homestay (เรือนบุษบา โฮมสเตย์) 8 Mu 4, Tambon Bang Kung, Tel. 08 5910 0909, 4 rooms, 800–1,000 Baht (inclusive of breakfast).

Baan Chid Chon (บ้านชิดชล) 36 Mu 6, Tel. 08 1319 8663, 3 bungalows, 400 Baht

Bang Noi Koy Rak (บางน้อยคอยรัก) (Inside Bang Noi Floating Market) 83 Mu 8, Tambon Kradang Nga, Tel. 08 6789 7833 www.facebook.com/bangnoikoyrak, 2 rooms, 1,000 Baht (inclusive of breakfast).

Ban Nuanchan Resort (บ้านนวลจันทร์ รีสอร์ท) 9/2 Mu 4, Soi Wat Kaenchan, Tambon Bang Phrom, Tel. 0 3476 1597, 08 9910 8635, 09 4401 9228, Fax 0 3476 1597, 9 bungalows, 1,000–2,500 Baht (inclusive of breakfast).

Baan Sinesanit (บ้านสายสนธิ) 7/1 Mu 5, Tambon Yai Phaeng, Tel. 08 6761 9960, 08 9928 1738, www.maeklongcenter.com/baansinesanit.htm, 10 rooms, 600–800 Baht

Baan Suan Khun Yine (บ้านสวนคุณยาย) 8 Mu 3, Tambon Yai Phaeng, Tel. 08 9027 8659, 0 3473 0659, www.maeklongcenter.com/baansuan-khunyine.htm, 4 rooms, 200–1,200/person Baht (inclusive of breakfast).

Baan Suan Lanna (บ้านสวนล้านนา) 44/1 Mu 5, Soi Phaya So, Tambon Bang Phrom, Tel. 08 4800 3240, www.baansuanlannaresort.com, 5 bungalows, 800–1,000 Baht (inclusive of breakfast).

Baan Suan Manowejchapun (บ้านสวนมะโนเวชชาปุน) 3 Mu 3, Tambon Yai Phaeng, Tel. 0 3473 8234, 08 1805 9748, 4 rooms 300/persons Baht

Baan Suan Pungtong (บ้านสวนพวงทอง) (on Khlong Chom Pluak) 54 Mu 1, Tambon Chom Pluak, Tel. 0 3470 3610, 08 1586 4376, www.maeklongcenter.com/baansuanpungtong.htm, 4 rooms, 400–500 Baht (inclusive of breakfast).

Baan Suan Sang Tawan Homestay (บ้านสวนแสงตะวัน โฮมสเตย์) (near Wat Bang Phlap) Mu 4, Tambon Bang Phrom, Tel. 0 3476 1985, 08 1274 4433, 9 rooms, 400/person Baht (inclusive of breakfast).

Baan Suan Sinetong (บ้านสวนทรายทอง) 1/2 Mu 1, Tambon Kradang-nga, Tel. 08 9507 2073, 28 rooms, 1,200 Baht (inclusive of breakfast).

Ban Thip Suan Thong (บ้านทิพย์สวนทอง) 54 Mu 2, Tambon Bang Phrom, Tel. 0 3473 0095, 08 6770 5913, 08 1816 3077, 59 rooms, 1,300–2,300 Baht (inclusive of breakfast).

Baanyok Homestay (บ้านหยกโฮมสเตย์) 13 Mu 4, Tambon Bang Phrom, Tel. 0 3476 1957, 09 1779 1851, 08 9228 6653, www.baanyok.com/, 4 rooms, 1,500 Baht (inclusive of breakfast).

Lapothai Resort and Homestay (บ้านลาโพทัย รีสอร์ท แอนด์ โฮมสเตย์) 54 Mu 4, Tambon Bang Phrom, Tel. 08 9259 2455, 10 rooms, 350–1,000 Baht (inclusive of breakfast).

Plaiklongsai Homestay (ปลายคลองไทร โฮมสเตย์) 11 Mu 8, Tambon Bang Phrom, Tel. 08 9885 1469, www.maeklongcenter.com/plaiklongsai/index.htm, 2 rooms, 300/person Baht (inclusive of breakfast).

Putaklom (บ้านปุดากลม) 57 Mu 2, Tambon Bang Phrom, Tel. 08 1854 3288, 08 9512 2837, www.putaklom.com, 4 bungalows, 1,200 Baht (inclusive of breakfast).

Ruean Kradangnga (เรือนกระดังงา) 44 Mu 12, Tambon Kradang-nga, Tel. 08 1857 2921, 08 1995 4889, www.kradangnga.com, 10 rooms, 800–1,500 Baht

Restaurants

Amphoe Mueang Samut Songkhram Chao Le (ชาวเล) (near the firefly village on Khlong Phi Lok) 50/6 Mu 6, Samut Songkhram –Bang Phae Road, Tambon Ban Prok, Tel. 0 3475 2681, open 10.00 a.m.–10.00 p.m.

(recommended: various shrimp and mackerel dishes).

Chinda (จินดา) 193 Soi Laem Yai (at the foot of the King Rama II Bridge), Tel. 0 3477 0040, 08 6307 8094, open 9.00 a.m.–8.00 p.m. (seafood).

Khlong Khon Fish Noodles (ก๋วยเตี๋ยวปลาคลองโคกน) available along both sides of the Thon Buri–Pak Tho Road, around Km. 2.

Khun Lin (คูนลิน) 10/29 Mu 4, Ratchawithi Road, Tambon Bang Chakreng, Tel. 0 3476 2948, 08 9837 4824, open 8.00 a.m.–8.00 p.m. (seafood).

Khrae Mai (แคร่ไม้) 10/11 Mu 4, Tambon Bang Chakreng (next to Ban Chuchi School, Don Hoi Lot), Tel. 08 9836 2069, open 9.00 a.m.–8.00 p.m. (seafood).

New Peng Long (นิวเปงล้ง) 125/15 Thang Khao Mueang Road, Tambon Mae Klong, Tel. 0 3471 1552, 08 1308 7188, open 9.00 a.m.–7.00 p.m. (Chinese food, recommended: steamed duck noodles).

Nai Klae (นายแกละ) 149 Mu 4, Tambon Bang Khan Taek, Tel. 0 3476 5888, 08 9744 4004, open 11.00 a.m.–8.00 p.m. (seafood).

Khun Lin Pak Ao (คูนลินปากอ่าว) 213 Mu 1, Wichan Withi Road, Tambon Bang Chakreng, Tel. 08 1820 2142, 08 1804 3188, open 8.00 a.m.–8.00 p.m. (seafood).

Ruean Wari (เรือนวารี) 153/2, Tambon Mae Klong, Tel. 0 3477 0061, 08 7411 3808, open 9.00 a.m.–8.00 p.m. (seafood).

Sawai (ไสว) 50/22 Soi Bang Chakreng 4, Rama II Road, Tambon Mae Klong, Tel. 0 3476 2590, 08 1942 4237, open 8.00 a.m.–8.30 p.m. (seafood).

Food Shops around the Don Hoi Lot Area

Khrua Sopha (ครัวโสภะ หรือตุ๊กเจ้าเก่า) 1/4 Mu 4, Tambon Bang Chakreng, Tel. 0 3476

2842, 08 1441 6638, open 8.00 a.m.–8.00 p.m. (seafood).

Khun Pao (คูนเป้า) 1/3 Mu 4, Tambon Bang Chakreng, Tel. 0 3472 3703, 08 1941 0376, 08 1923 9544, open 8.00 a.m.–8.00 p.m. (seafood).

Khiang Thale (เคียงทะเล) 3/17 Mu 4, Tambon Bang Chakreng, Tel. 0 3472 3681–2, 0 3472 3702, open 9.00 a.m.–8.00 p.m. (seafood).

Nam Thip (น้ำทิพย์) 12/1 Samutsongkram–Bangphae Road, Tel. 08 6666 7519, 08 1918 8010, open 10.00 a.m.–10.00 p.m. (seafood).

Nok Aieng (นอเอียง) Tambon Bang Chakreng, Tel. 0 3476 2909, 08 6168 4960, open 7.00 a.m.–8.00 p.m. (seafood).

Nok Aieng2 (นอเอียง ๒) (about 400m. from Nok Aieng) Tel. 0 3476 2909, 08 6168 4960, open 7.00 a.m.–8.00 p.m. (seafood).

Nong Kung (นอังกุ้ง) Mu 4, Vitanvithi Road, Tambon Bang Chakreng, Tel. 08 6029 9613, open 9.00 a.m.–7.00 p.m. (seafood).

Phuean (เฟื่อง) 115/15 Mu 4, Tambon Bang Khan Taek, Tel. 08 9914 1199, 0 3476 5816, open 11.00 a.m.–7.30 p.m. (seafood).

Lung Khan (ลุงขัน) 3/1 Mu 4, Tambon Bang Chakreng, Tel. 0 3476 2918–9, open 7.00 a.m.–8.00 p.m. (seafood).

In the area of Don Hoi Lot, there are also several other food shops and restaurants located along the beach such as Somnuek, Lung Man, Nok lang, Nong Kung, Song Anong, Rungsap, Namthip, Sopha, Suthada, Pa Tuk, etc.; all with a relaxing atmosphere where one can enjoy seafood and views of the Don Hoi Lot at high tide.

Amphoe Amphawa

Ban Chom Duean (บ้านชมเดือน) 39/4 Mu 9, Km. 38 Samut Songkhram–Bang Phae Road, Tambon Ban Prok, Tel. 0 3475 2200–1, 08

1466 5809, open Fri–Sun 11.00 a.m.–9.00 p.m. (recommended: pomelo salad, spicy shell salad, pickled bamboo shoot soup with crab, old-style spicy fish with herbs, fried salted domestic chicken). (Ban Chom Duean Local Museum is open daily during 8.00 a.m.–5.00 p.m.)

Chang Phueak (ช้างเผือก) (about 1.5 km. beyond the King Rama II Memorial Park) 2 Mu 5, Amphawa–Bang Nok Khwaek Road, Tambon Bang Chang, Tel. 0 3472 5414, 0 3272 5541, 08 1494 3264, open 10.00 a.m.–7.00 p.m. closed on Monday (seafood, chicken cooked in fish sauce).

Ngo Pochana (ง้อโภชนา) 44–46 Si Amphawa Road, Tel. 0 3475 1169, open daily 10.00 a.m.–8.30 p.m. (Seafood, recommended: fried fish in fish sauce)

Nong Um (น้องอุ้ม) (about 200m. from King Rama II Memorial Park on the Mae Klong River opposite Wat Bang Khae Yai) 12 Sukhonthan Road, Tambon Amphawa, Tel. 0 3475 1977, 0 3475 1209, 08 5963 3468, open daily 9.00 a.m.–9.00 p.m. (recommended: water lily rhizome soup with shrimp, stir-fried cowslip creeper flower in oyster sauce, Phat Poi Sian – a stir-fried dish of 8 main ingredients, deep-fried fish sauce-marinated perch, fried rice noodles in seafood sauce, blue swimming crab salad, and grilled serrated mud crab).

Roen Sabay Amphawa (เรือนสบายอัมพวา) (inside Amphawa floating market), Tel. 08 6344 7418, open 1.00 p.m.–11.00 p.m. (Thai food).

Amphoe Bang Khonthi

Ban Suan Rim Nam (บ้านสวนริมน้ำ) 21 Mu 5, Tambon Bang Yirong, Tel. 0 3477 3195, 08 1298 5098, open 11.00 a.m.–9.00 p.m. (Thai food, recommended: Fried pork leg with garlic)

Kuaitiao Pla Amphawa (กล้วยเตี๋ยปลาอัมพวา) (next to Thawi Sugar Stove) 8/1 Mu 7, Tambon

Bang Phrom, Tel. 08 5909 9635, open daily 9.00 a.m.–4.00 p.m. (fish noodles).

Pai Lin Rim Nam (ไพลิน ริมแม่น้ำ) 54 Mu 2, Tambon Bang Phrom, Tel. 0 3476 1753, 0 3476 1756, open 9.00 a.m.–9.00 p.m. (Seafood, recommended: Stir fried Crab in Curry Powder)

Local Products and Souvenirs

Samut Songkhram is a fertile province where the majority of the people are farmers, and, therefore, abounds with various kinds of fruit, be they lychee, king orange, grape, guava, coconut, or the Khao Yai variety of pomelo grown extensively in Amphoe Bang Khonthi. There are also other agricultural products, local goods and souvenirs to suit tourists' choices.

Amphoe Mueang Samut Songkhram Ban Pak Map Cooperatives Miniature

Boat (เรือจำลอง กลุ่มสตรีและเยาวชนสหกรณ์) 28/2 Mu 8, Tambon Bang Kaeo, Tel. 0 3476 9877, 08 1308 9020 (miniature boats such as rowing boat, long-tailed boat, ghost boat, etc. mostly made of durable teakwood).

Seafood Products (กลุ่มสตรีและเยาวชนสหกรณ์) 28/2 Mu 8, Tambon Bang Kaeo, Tel. 0 3476 9877, 08 1308 9020 (Recommended: Fish floss)

Talat Don Hoi Lot (ตลาดสินค้าพื้นเมืองบริเวณดอนหอยหลอด) on the roadside in the Don Hoi Lot area, offering dried seafood such as razor clam or Hoi Lot, salted fish, squid, and shrimp, as well as processed food, hand-crafted products and souvenirs.

Talat Khong Di Mae Klong 69 (ตลาดของดีแม่กลอง ๖๙) Km. 69 Rama II Road, Tambon Bang Khan Taek, sells local goods such as fresh fruits from orchards, the Khao Yai variety of pomelo, lychee, rose apple, aromatic coconut, and dried seafood like razor clam, salted fish, squid, and shrimp. Several other products are also avail-



Bencharong Ceramic

able; for example, Khlong Khon's shrimp paste, fish sauce, fresh toddy palm sap, and coconut palm sugar.

Talat Klang Bang Kaeo or Bang Kaeo Central Market (ตลาดกลางบางแก้ว) Km. 58 Rama II Road, is a showcasing and selling centre of commodity goods, agricultural produce, hand-crafted and local products, and manufactured processed agricultural products, as well as community economic shops of housewife groups. The market is open on Thursday and Sunday.

Amphoe Amphawa

Coconut Palm Sugar (น้ำตาลมะพร้าว) along both sides of Highway No. 325 (Samut Songkhram–Bang Phae route) from Km. 30–34, there are a number of sugar simmering stoves such as Tao Wan, Tao Tan Di, and Tao Thai Doem. Visitors may stop to see the sugar simmering demonstration. Making sugar from coconut palm sap is one of the province's major occupations. Villagers will climb up the coconut trees to collect the sap from their inflorescence from the hanging bamboo tubes in the morning. Then, the collected sap will be simmered in a large wok until it becomes dried. The simmering time is between 8.30 a.m.–2.00 p.m.

The Orchid Farm Company Limited (บริษัท ดิ ออร์คิด ฟาร์ม จำกัด) 40/1 Mu 7, Highway No. 325 (Samut Songkhram–Bang Phae Road), Tambon Bang Chang, Tel. 0 3475 1494, 0 3475 1748-9, 08 1857 2563, open 7.00–10.30 a.m. (an attraction offering an orchid farm and souvenir products such as silk cloth, silverware, and decorative items).

Pinsuwan Bencharong or Ban Bencharong (เป็นสุวรรณ เบญจรงค์ หรือบ้านเบญจรงค์) 32/1 Mu 7, Km. 36–37 (opposite Wat Chula Mani)

300 m. off Highway No. 325 (Samut Songkhram–Bang Phae Road), Tambon Bang Chang. This is a production plant of replicas of Bencharong ceramics of the King Rama II period, which are painted with graceful and colourful patterns ideal for souvenirs and household decorations. Open 8.00 a.m.–5.00 p.m. on Monday–Saturday, and 8.00–12.00 a.m. on Sunday. Observation of the production process is open daily during 8.00 a.m.–5.00 p.m. from Monday–Saturday. For more details, call Tel. 0 3475 1322, 08 6171 8338.

Tied and Natural Dyed Cotton (ผ้ามัดย้อม พิษณุขายเลน กลุ่มเปลือกไม้บ้านเขายี่สาร) Tied and Natural Dyed Cotton Group (near Yi San Sub-district Administration Organization), Mu 1, Tambon Yi San, Amphoe Amphawa, contact Mrs. Thongprung Darunsi, Tel. 0 3476 3027, 08 1906 1126 (appliances, bags and ready-to-wear clothes from tied and natural dyed cloth).

Amphoe Bang Khonthi

Kala Banleng (ร้านกะลาบรเลง) Mr. Bangleng Yimbunna, 63/2 Mu 8, Ban Rai–Wat Bot Road, Tambon Bang Yi Rong, Amphoe Bang Khonthi, Tel. 08 1293 6414, open daily 8.00 a.m.–8.00 p.m. (various forms of products from coconut shells and natural materials, in unique creative philosophical designs, for daily use and household decoration).

Kluai Brek Taek (กล้วยเบรคแตก) available at the PTT Gas Station before reaching Ban Suan Rim Nam, Samut Sakhon–Bang Nok Khwaek Route, Tel. 0 3473 0154, 08 1857 8487, 08 4801 7887, open 6.00 a.m.–7.00 p.m. (honey-baked aromatic banana with a delicious crispy sweet, salty, and enjoyable taste).

USFUL CALLS

Provincial Bus Terminal
Samut Songkhram Railway Station
Provincial Public Relations
Provincial Administration Office
Police Station
Amphoe Amphawa Police Station
Amphoe Bang Khonthi Police Station
Amphawa Hospital
King Rama II Hospital
Highway Police
Tourist Police

Tel. 0 3471 6962
Tel. 0 3471 1906
Tel. 0 3471 48
Tel. 0 3471 1997
Tel. 0 3471 1338, 0 3472 0530-5
Tel. 0 3475 1300, 0 3472 5625-7
Tel. 0 3476 1866, 0 3473 0062-4
Tel. 0 3475 1846-7, 0 3475 2560-1
Tel. 0 3472 3044-9
Tel. 1193
Tel. 1155



Wat Bangkapom



แผนที่ตัวเมืองสมุทรสงคราม SAMUT SONGKHRAM CITY MAP



สัญลักษณ์ Legend

- ศาลากลางจังหวัด City Hall
- โรงเรียน School
- สถานีขนส่ง Bus Terminal
- ไปรษณีย์ Post Office
- สถานีตำรวจ Police Station
- สถานีรถไฟ Railway Station
- ถนน Road
- แหล่งน้ำ, แม่น้ำ Stream, River
- สถานีรถไฟ Railway

วัด Temple (Wat)

- 1 วัดพระสมุทรโศภน หรือวัดบ้านแหลม
Wat Phet Samut Worawihan or Wat Ban Laem
- 2 วัดธรรมนิมิต Wat Tham Nimit
- 3 วัดบางจระเข้ Wat Bang Cha Kreng
- 4 วัดปากสมุทร Wat Pak Samut
- 5 วัดสัตหิรัญหรือวัดมอญ
Wat Saththatham or Wat Mon

โรงพยาบาล Hospital

- 1 โรงพยาบาลสมุทรสงคราม
Samut Songkhram Hospital
- 2 โรงพยาบาลแม่กลอง 2 Mae Klong 2 Hospital

ตลาด Market

- 1 ตลาดชุมพร Railway Market
- 2 ตลาดปลา Mae Klong Fish Market

สถานที่สำคัญ Place of Interest

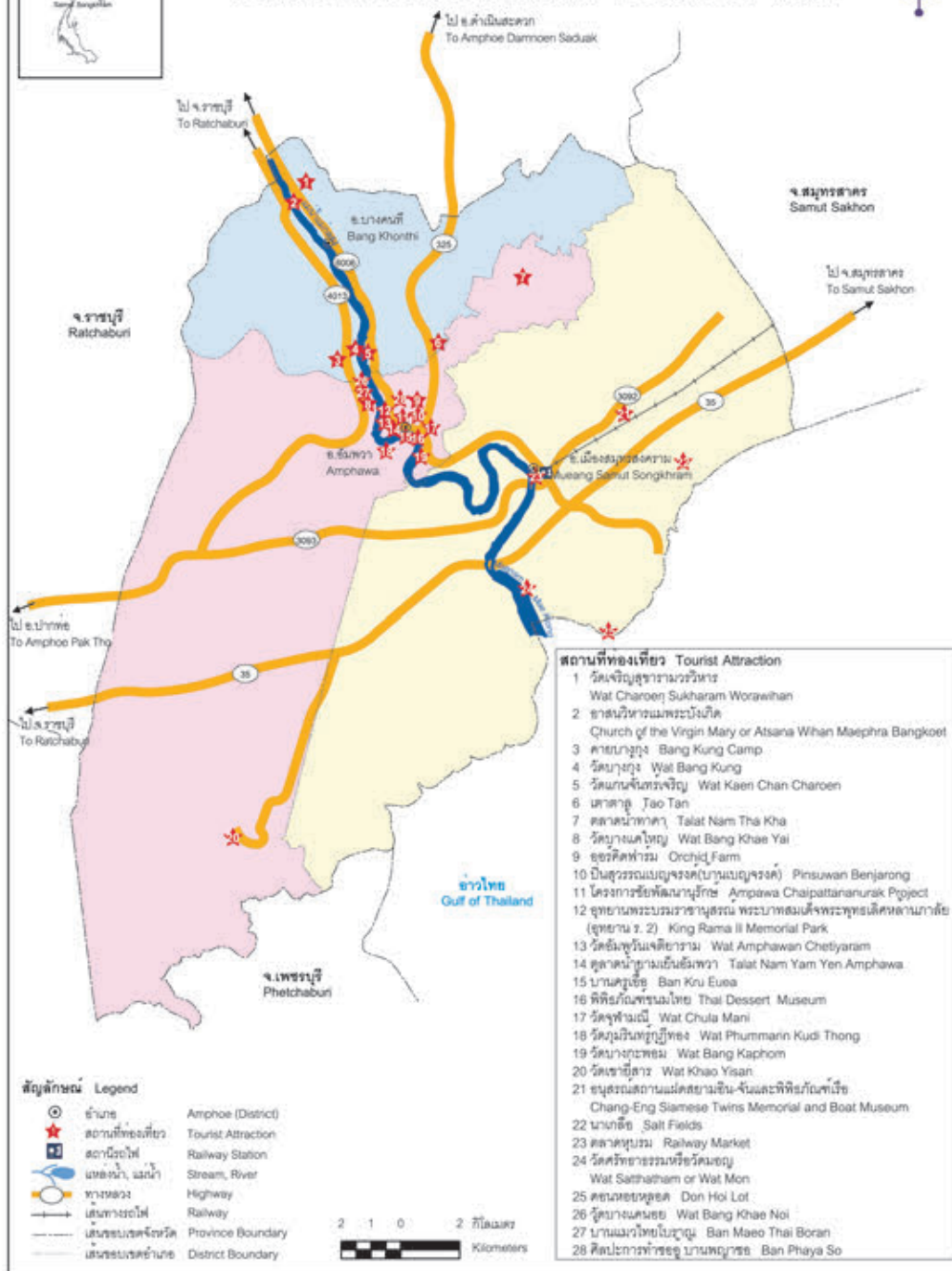
- 1 วิทยาลัยเทคนิคสมุทรสงคราม
Samut Songkhram Technical College
- 2 ศาลจังหวัด Samut Songkhram Provincial Court
- 3 สำนักงานเทศบาลเมืองสมุทรสงคราม
Samut Songkhram Municipality Office
- 4 ศนุสศุลกากรแม่กลอง Mae Klong Customs

สถานที่ท่องเที่ยว Tourist Attraction

- 1 วิหารหลวงพ่อบึง Wihan Luang Pho Prok
- 2 สวนสุขภาพเทศบาลเมืองสมุทรสงคราม
Samut Songkhram Municipal Park



แผนที่ท่องเที่ยวจังหวัดสมุทรสงคราม SAMUT SONGKHRAM TOURIST MAP



TAT TOURIST INFORMATION CENTER

TOURISM AUTHORITY OF THAILAND

HEAD OFFICE

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Tel. 0 2250 5500 (120 automatic lines)

Fax 0 2250 5511

e-mail: center@tat.or.th

www.tourismthailand.org

MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND SPORTS

4 Ratchadamnoen Nok Avenue, Bangkok 10100

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everyday Open Daily from 8.30-16.30 PM.hrs.

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150/8-9 Samut Songkhram Bang Phae Road.,

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Wat Bang Kung



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